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Benefits, design and implementation of regional systems of care for S-T elevation myocardial infarction

Michael R Gunderson

University of Maryland, USA

S-T segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) is a high-risk time-sensitive condition. Reductions in total ischemic time can yield significant improvements in clinical outcomes. This presentation would outline strategies and techniques for coordinating the efforts of the general public, local government, ambulance services, emergency departments and cardiac catheterization laboratories. These strategies have shown very positive results throughout the United States. A summary of these strategies and their impact will be presented, to include the key elements of the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline Program and the American College of Cardiology's Door to Balloon program. It can be concluded that establishing formal 'systems of care' strategies that integrate efforts inside and outside of the hospital can be an effective strategy for reducing mortality in STEMI.

mic.gunderson@gmail.com